

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS**

**Connecticut Arts Council  
May 18, 2015  
One Constitution Plaza, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Fritz Jellinghaus, Mimsi Coleman, Karen Osbrey, Philip Eliasoph, Lisa Scails, Amy Wynn, Mary DeCroce, Ted Yudain

**Absent:** Ann Sheffer, Jimmy Greene

**Staff:** Catherine Smith, Kristina Newman-Scott, Dan Forrest, Rhonda Olisky, Bonnie Koba, Tamara Dimitri

**Guest:** Dick Allen

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:54 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The approval of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting minutes are deferred for approval for the next arts council meeting.

**III. Chairman's Report**

Fritz Jellinghaus introduced Kristina Newman-Scott, Director of Culture and Executive Director of CT Arts Council Foundation.

Ms. Newman-Scott expressed how happy she is to be part of DECD and looks forward to her work with the Arts & SHPO teams. She is excited about the opportunities to align arts and preservation with the economic development of our state.

**IV. Director's Report**

Dan Forrest reported on the deadline extensions for the FY16 Arts Grants. Commissioner Smith made the decision based on the current uncertainty of the state budget. Commissioner hopes that by the end of the month of June we will have a clearer status on the budget.

Dan reported that the Regional Initiative Grant guidelines will be published by the end of the day tomorrow.

**V. Action Items for Recommendations**

**A. Connecticut State Poet Laureate**

It is recommended the Arts Council approve Rennie McQuilkin as the State of Connecticut Poet Laureate for the five (5) year term, July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020 and receive a stipend of \$1,000 per year.

Motion: Lisa Scails

Second: Mimsie Coleman

(Y-8; N-0)

Ms. Newman-Scott will contact the Governor's Office to do a press release announcing the new CT State Poet Laureate.

**VI. Other Business**

No other business.

**VII: Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

The next Arts Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Lu Rivera  
Administrative Assistant